

OPINION 80

SUSPENSION OF RULES IN THE CASE OF HOLOTHURIA AND PHYSALIA

SUMMARY.—The Echinoderm genus *Holothuria* Linn., 1767, restr. Bruguière, 1791, type *H. tremula* 1767 = *H. tubulosa* 1790, and the Siphonophorae genus *Physalia* Lamarck, 1801, type *P. pelagica* 1801 = *Holothuria physalis* 1758, are hereby placed in the Official List of Generic Names.

STATEMENT OF CASE.—Pages 49 to 57 of Opinion 76 are accepted as statement of Case.

DISCUSSION.—Pages 49 to 57 of Opinion 76 are accepted as Discussion.

The fact that the suspension of the rules was under consideration for these names was duly published as follows: Science, 1917, v. 45, Feb. 2, p. 113; Nature, Lond., v. 98, 1916, Sept. 21, p. 49; Monit. Zool. Ital., 1917, v. 28 (11), p. 183.

The Secretary recommends that the Commission adopt the following action:

(1) Suspend the rules in the case of the generic names *Holothuria* and *Physalia*;

(2) Permanently reject *Holothuria* Linnaeus, 1758, type *H. physalis* 1758;

(3) Validate *Physalia* Lamarck, 1801, type *P. pelagica* 1801 (syn. *H. physalis* 1758);

(4) Accept *Holothuria* as dating from Linn., 1767a (type *H. tremula* 1767 = *H. tubulosa* 1790) as restricted by Bruguière, 1791, and despite the publication of *Holothuria* Linn., 1758 (rejected);

(5) This suspension is not to be construed as invalidating any specific name.

The grounds for said suspension are:

(a) In the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the Règles to the names *Holothuria* and *Physalia* “will clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity”;

(b) The cases involve a transfer of generic names, almost universally accepted in the sense given above since 1791 (for *Holothuria*), and since 1801 (for *Physalia*), to genera in other groups in connection with which they have been used during more than 100 years by only a very few authors. Important supergeneric names, also of long standing, are involved.

(6) The Commission places on the Official List of Generic Names the name *Holothuria* Linn., 1767, type *H. tremula* 1767 = *H. tubulosa*

1790, as the correct name for a genus of Sea Cucumbers, and the generic name *Physalia* Lamarck, 1801, type *P. pelagica* 1801 = *Holothuria physalia* 1758, as the correct generic name for the Portuguese Man-of-War.

Opinion written by Stiles.

Opinion concurred in by 12 Commissioners: Apstein, Bather, Handlirsch, Horvath, Hoyle, Jordan (D. S.), Jordan (K.), Kolbe, Loennberg, Skinner, Stejneger, Stiles.

Opinion dissented from by no Commissioners.

Not voting, three Commissioners: Dautzenberg, Hartert, Monticelli.